barn damaged by the flood/heavy rains in October, 1995.

(b) to (d) As per the survey conducted by the Tobacco Board, the Cyclonic weather in the second week of June'96 caused substantial damage to three barns only and partial damage to 38 barns in the Nellore district of Andhra Pradesh.

Ceiling on cultivation of Virginia Tobacco

785. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any ceiling has been fixed on cultivation of Virginia tobacco;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total quantity of tobacco exported and the foreign exchanges earned therefrom during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) (a) and (b) The authorised crop size of Flue Cured Virginia (FCV) Tobacco fixed by the Tobacco Board for the year 1996-97 is as under:—

STATE	CROP SIZE (Qty. in M.Kgs)
Andhra Pradesh	83.08
Maharashtra	0.13
Orissa	0.13
Karnataka	29.50
	112.84

(c) Quantity of Tobacco exported and the foreign exchange earned during each of the last three years are as follows:

(Quantity in Tons and Value in Rs. Crores)

ITEM	1993-94		1994-95		1995-96	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
Tobacco	104676	461.19	53732	254.75	71430	365.81

(Source: DGCI&S, Calcutta)

Special employment programme of KVIC

786. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that KVIC is presently implementing a special employment programme in a number of blocks in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of blocks that have been selected by KVIC in the State of Maharashtra under this programme, district-wise;

(d) the number of block in Maharashtra particularly in Nagpur District where the programme has been launched, with details thereof;

(e) whether targets of employment generation for these blocks of the State have been fixed; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) KVIC has identified 125 blocks throughout the country for implementing the special employment programme. This programme was launched on 2nd October, 1994 which was the 125th Birth Anniversary of Mahatmaji. In order to commemorate this event, the number of block was restricted to 125. It is expected to create employment for 1000 persons in